

01-25-06

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CASE 4-32303A

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EU731065155U.S.
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Date of Deposit

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF
DIXON ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: 10/525,456

FILED: FEBRUARY 24, 2005

FOR: HB-954 AS A TARGET FOR MODULATING ANGIOGENESIS

MS: AmendmentCommissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

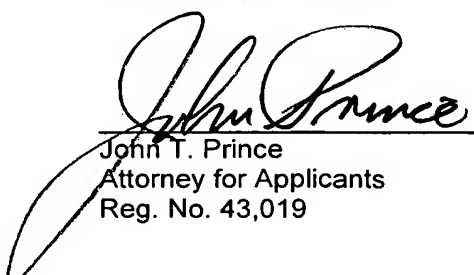
In response to the Restriction Requirement of January 5, 2006, Applicants elect the claims of Group 1, claims 1-16, drawn to an assay employing a HB-954 polypeptide. This election is made without traverse.

This election is timely made. However, if it is deemed that additional fees are required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis for any fees due.

Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of any non-elected claim groups in one or more divisional applications.

An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis
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Reg. No. 43,019

Date: January 24, 2006